

AGENDA



Recommendation for Council Action

Austin City Council	Item ID	11155	Agenda Number	10.
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Meeting Date:	12/15/2011	Department:	Economic Growth and Redevelopment
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Subject

Authorize negotiation and execution of a design and commission agreement with Christian Moeller Studio LLC, Los Angeles, CA, for artwork to be displayed at the new Central Library in an amount not to exceed \$385,000.

Amount and Source of Funding

Funding in the amount of \$385,000 is available in the Fiscal Year 2011-2012 Capital Budget of the Austin Public Library Department.

Fiscal Note

Fiscal Note is attached.

Purchasing Language:	
Prior Council Action:	
For More Information:	Kevin Johns, Director / EGRSO, 974-7802; Meghan Turner, Acting AIPP Administrator / EGRSO, 974-9314
Boards and Commission Action:	Recommended by the Art in Public Places Panel and the Austin Arts Commission.
MBE / WBE:	
Related Items:	

Additional Backup Information

PROJECT SUMMARY

The City of Austin Art in Public Places (AIPP) program of the Cultural Arts Division, Economic Growth & Redevelopment Services Office sought to commission a professional visual artist /artist team to design, fabricate and install a work of art to contribute to the new Central Library, being constructed in the Seaholm District on West Cesar Chavez at the site of the former south section of Austin Energy's Seaholm Substation.

The goal of this art is that it be a signature work of contemporary public art for Austin that is:

Dynamic and visually engaging; Strengthens the identity of the library; Enlivens the surrounding environment; Contributes to a local, regional and national contemporary art dialogue; Serves as a significant piece within the artist's oeuvre; and Responds to the context of the new Central Library's architecture and programs.

A Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was issued on May 11, 2011 to professional visual artists and artist teams, at least 18 years of age, who live in the United States. The Selection Panel met with Advisors on July 14, 2011 to review the 231 eligible responses submitted by the advertised deadline including images of past work, resume and letter of interest. The Selection Panel selected three artists as Finalists for the project to present conceptual proposals:

- Alice Aycock, New York, NY;
- Benjamin Ball + Gaston Nogues, Los Angeles, CA; and
- Christian Moeller, Los Angeles, CA

The Selection Panel met with Advisors on November 2, 2011 to review the conceptual proposals and presentations by the three Finalists. The Selection Panel unanimously voted for Christian Moeller as the artist and by majority for Alice Aycock for the alternate. On November 7, 2011, the Art in Public Places Panel unanimously approved the Selection Panel's recommendation that artist Christian Moeller (Los Angeles, CA) be commissioned for the Central Library AIPP project and artist Alice Aycock (New York, NY) be the alternate. The Austin Arts Commission unanimously approved the artist selection on November 21, 2011.

SELECTION PANEL

- Andrea Karnes, Curator, Modern Art Museum of Ft. Worth, TX
- Marc Pally, Artist and Public Art Consultant, Los Angeles, CA
- Lawrence Speck, Architect & Distinguished Teaching Professor at School of Architecture, UT Austin

PROJECT ADVISORS

- John Gillum, Library Department, Facilities Process Manager, City of Austin
- Cynthia Jordan, Public Works Project Manager, City of Austin
- David Lake, Project Architect; Flato Shepley Bulfinch Joint Venture
- Mickey Klein, Austin Public Library Friends Foundation, Board Member
- Tim Staley, Austin Public Library Friends Foundation, Executive Director
- Jennifer Chenoweth, Project liaison from AIPP Panel